

3. (Twice Amended) An adsorbent structure comprising:
a honeycomb structure having a periphery and two ends,
including a plurality of passages which are defined by partition
walls and extend in an axial direction between the ends; and
a composition including (a) a zeolite and (b) a heat-
resistant oxide[,] other than zeolite, wherein said heat-resistant
oxide is loaded with a noble metal, and said composition [being] is
coated on the partition walls.

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 and 11-14 are pending herein. Independent claims
1 and 3 have been amended herein.

1. Examiners Preisch and Griffin are thanked for courtesies
extended during several telephonic interviews on May 13, 1997.
During the interviews, an agreement was reached that the amendments
herein to claims 1 and 3 should overcome the art rejection of
record in the parent application. However, Examiners Preisch and
Griffin stated that such claim amendments would not have been
entered in the parent application. Accordingly, this continuation
application has been filed to secure entry of the amendments
herein.

2. Claims 1-6 and 11-14 were rejected under §102(e)/§103
over Inoue et al. or JP '061. Applicants submit that this
§102(e)/§103 rejection should be withdrawn in view of the